

**10/563131**

**IAP20 Rec'd.PCT/PTO 03 JAN 2006**

**PATENT**

Attorney Docket No. 02887.0372

CUSTOMER NUMBER 22,852

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
Tsuyoshi ARUGA et al. ) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned  
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned ) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
Filed: January 3, 2006 )  
National Stage of International Application )  
No. PCT/JP2004/009160 under 35 U.S.C. )  
371, for JOINING METHOD AND JOINING )  
DEVICE )

**Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 10 of this paper.